

### In the Claims

Please amend claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 9, 11, 12, 14, 17, 19, 20, 22, and 24 as follows.

Please cancel claims 5, 13, 16, 21 and 23 without prejudice

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

tuning a receiver of a broadband cable signal to a channel within the broadband cable signal to receive information including one or more cable modem operating parameters, the broadband cable signal associated with a first modulation technique;  
and

temporarily modifying receiver parameters to demodulate the channel according to a second modulation technique that differs from the first modulation technique associated with the broadband cable signal;

recovering information contained within the demodulated signal corresponding to the one or more operating characteristics of the cable modem; and

updating one or more operating parameters of the cable modem in accordance with the received recovered information.

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the channel is a narrow-band channel within the broadband cable signal.

3. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the channel is a pilot channel.

4. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein tuning a receiver to a channel comprises:

accessing a storage medium for a list of information channels within the broadband cable signal;

selecting a channel from the list to which the receiver is tuned; and  
demodulating the channel to recover system information.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim [[5]] 1, wherein the information includes an indication of a data channel.
7. (Original) A method according to claim 4, further comprising:  
selecting a next channel from the list of information channels if system information is not contained within a demodulated representation of the channel; and  
repeating the modifying, reading and selecting steps until cable modem operating information is identified.
8. (Original) A method according to claim 7, further comprising:  
updating the list of channels to promote the channel in which system information was found to the first channel in the list.
9. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 7, further comprising:  
restoring receiver demodulation parameters to demodulate the broadband cable signal in accordance with [[a]] the modulation technique associated with the broadband cable signal.
10. (Original) A machine accessible storage medium comprising a plurality of executable instructions which, when executed by an accessing machine, cause the machine to implement a method according to claim 1.
11. (Currently Amended) A computing system comprising:  
a storage medium including a plurality of executable instructions; and  
a control unit, coupled to the storage medium, to execute at least a subset of the plurality of executable instructions to implement a data channel detection agent, wherein the data channel detection agent,  
tunes a ~~broadband~~ receiver of a broadband cable signal to a channel within the signal to receive information including one or more cable modem operating parameters, the broadband cable signal associated with a first modulation technique;  
temporarily modifies receiver parameters to demodulate the channel according to a second modulation technique that differs from the first modulation technique

associated with the broadband cable signal to recover information contained within the channel, the recovered information including the one or more operating characteristics of the cable modem; and

~~and to update~~ updates one or more cable modem operating parameters in accordance with the ~~received~~ recovered information.

12. (Currently Amended) A computing system according to claim 11, wherein the data channel detection agent accesses a storage medium for a list of information channels within the broadband cable signal, and selects one of the channels within which to find system information.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) A computing system according to claim ~~[[13]]~~ 12, wherein the channel detection agent steps to a next channel in the list if the demodulated channel does not include system operating information.

15. (Original) A computing system according to claim 14, wherein the channel detection agent updates the list to promote the channel in which the cable modem operating parameters were found to a first channel in the list.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A computing system according to claim ~~[[14]]~~ 11, wherein the channel detection agent restores demodulator settings once the cable modem operating parameters are established.

18. (Original) A computing system according to claim 11, wherein the computing system is a cable modem.

19. (Currently Amended) A machine accessible storage medium comprising a plurality of executable instructions which, when executed by an accessing machine, cause the machine to implement a channel detection agent to,

tune a ~~broadband~~ receiver of a broadband cable signal to a channel within the signal to receive information including one or more cable modem operating parameters, the broadband cable signal associated with a first modulation technique;

temporarily modify receiver parameters to demodulate the channel according to a second modulation technique that differs from the first modulation technique associated with the broadband cable signal to recover information contained within the channel, the recovered information including the one or more operating characteristics of the cable modem; and

~~and to update~~ update one or more cable modem operating parameters in accordance with the ~~received~~ recovered information.

20. (Currently Amended) A machine accessible storage medium according to claim 19, wherein the instructions to implement the data channel detection agent include instructions to access a storage medium for a list of information channels within the broadband cable signal, and to select one of the channels within which to search for system information.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) A machine accessible storage medium according to claim [[21]] 20, wherein the instructions to implement the channel detection agent include instructions to step the receiver to a next channel in the list if the demodulated channel does not include system operating information.

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) A machine accessible storage medium according to claim [[23]] 19, wherein the instructions to update one or more operating characteristics of the cable modem include instructions to restore the receiver to demodulate the identified

channel in accordance with [[a]] the modulation technique associated with the broadband cable signal.